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News Release

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Man indicted on seven counts of bank robbery

A 25-year-old man was indicted this week in federal court on seven counts of bank robbery in connection with the heists at banks in Duluth, Eagan, Hastings, Oakdale, Roseville and St. Paul between April 28 and May 23.

Taron David Gilyard, unknown address, was charged Aug. 4 in Minneapolis. Gilyard's indictment alleges that he did by force, violence and intimidation take from another person money belonging to the respective bank on each date.

The indictment lists the Western Bank, Oakdale, was robbed on April 28; the Northtown Community Credit Union, St. Paul, was robbed on May 2; the US Bank, Duluth, was robbed on May 7; the TCF Bank, Hastings, was robbed on May 9; the TCF Bank, St. Paul, was robbed on May 10; the Premier Bank, Roseville, was robbed on May 14; and the Anchor Bank, Eagan, was robbed on May 23.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, the Premier Bank in Roseville was robbed at approximately 3:55 p.m. on May 14. The robber approached a teller, placed a note on the counter, which stated, "Give me all your 100's and 50's. I have a gun." The teller complied, gave him the cash and he walked calmly out of the bank.

The affidavit states that on May 23 the Anchor Bank was robbed at approximately 12:10 p.m. The robber approached a teller and placed a note on the counter with a similar message. The teller complied, the man left the bank and fled on foot.

If convicted, Gilyard faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison on each count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI, and the police departments of Duluth, Eagan, Hastings, Oakdale, Roseville and St. Paul. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Richard Newberry.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.